

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 27 and cancel claims 1-26 and 31-37. A complete listing of the claims, including their current status, is provided below.

1. – 26. **(Cancelled)**

27. **(Currently amended)** A method of screening for a bioactive agent capable of modulating PARP activity comprising the steps of:

contacting a candidate bioactive agent with a Tankyrase H (TaHo) protein in the presence of a source of ADP-ribose, wherein the TaHo protein is encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 90% identity to the nucleic acid sequence set forth in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO:1) or Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2); and

determining the amount of poly ADP-ribose **produced by** ~~associated with~~ said TaHo protein, ~~wherein said TaHo protein is encoded by a nucleic acid having at least 90% identity to the nucleic acid sequence set forth in Figure 1 or 2 (SEQ ID NOS:1,2).~~

28. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 27, wherein said candidate bioactive agent is a small molecule.

29. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 27, wherein said candidate bioactive agent is a peptide.

30. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 27, wherein said source of poly ADP-ribose is NAD.

31. – 37. **(Cancelled)**

38. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 27, wherein said TaHo protein has PARP activity.

39. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 27, wherein said source of poly ADP-ribose is biotinylated NAD.

40. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 27, wherein said source of poly ADP-ribose is radioactively labeled NAD.

41. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 27, wherein said TaHo protein has an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NOS:3 or 4.

42. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 41, wherein said TaHo protein has PARP activity.

43. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 41, wherein said TaHo protein has an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or 4.